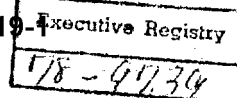


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OLC-78-2768
25 July 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR : Director of Central Intelligence
THROUGH : Deputy Director of Central Intelligence
FROM : S.D. Breckinridge
SUBJECT : HSCA Public Hearings

1. Action Requested: That you sign the attached letter to Chairman Stokes of the House Select Committee on Assassinations, requesting information on the planned public hearings and that we be consulted concerning them.

2. Background: Orally, on 29 June and 13 July, we asked Mr. Blakey, the Chief Counsel and Staff Director of HSCA, for information about the planned public hearings. We have as yet no reply although we were promised an answer in ten days at the time of the first request.

3. The HSCA staff follows a practice of screening its thinking and activities from us. Combined with an adversarial attitude and a variety of their own internal organizational problems, this has kept communications at a low level. Requests of the Agency often come at the last minute, with limited information, which creates some difficulty in responding on a timely or sound basis. It is necessary, therefore, that we consider the possibility that we will receive information on the public hearings too late for such action as we may feel it is necessary to take.



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Washington, D.C. 20505

OLC #78-2768/A

26 July 1978

DDCI

Honorable Louis Stokes, Chairman
Select Committee on Assassinations
Room 3381, Annex #2
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I understand that you plan public hearings for late August and early September. As you must realize we are quite interested in plans for the hearings, as some of the subject matter may involve highly sensitive matters not appropriate for publication. Great care must be exercised in handling such matters. CIA should be involved in decisions looking to both substantive content and treatment of certain matters, and this inquiry is to ensure sufficient lead time for responsible planning.

It would be very much appreciated if you could inform me concerning the scheduled plans for the hearings, as well as the substantive content, in order that we can prepare for it. It also would be appreciated if you would instruct your staff to coordinate with my representatives on this.

25X1



OLC/SDBreckinridge/hfs (25 July 1978)

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